

ABSTRACT

A method and unit for handling and processing blanks for packing tobacco articles, wherein the blanks, arranged in groups located in a storage area in a given original arrangement, are removed in groups from the storage area and fed along a path extending through a work station where each blank is subjected to at least one processing operation; the blanks are again formed into groups, and are removed in groups from the path, downstream from the work station, to be fed back to the storage area, and to be formed, in the storage area, into a given arrangement normally similar to the original arrangement; the groups are arranged, in the given arrangement, on pallets located in the storage area, which comprises an unloading area located at an input end of the path, and a loading area located at an output end of the path; a first pallet, loaded with groups of blanks for processing, is moved into the unloading area to feed the groups along the path, and an initially empty second pallet is moved into the loading area to receive the groups of processed blanks.

(Figure 1)